

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 693

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jeff and Susan Lane of Lane Motor Museum for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, two such noteworthy people are Jeff and Susan Lane, who have operated Lane Motor Museum in Nashville since 2003; with a collection of more than 300 cars, the museum houses some of the finest and rarest automobiles in the world; and

WHEREAS, Museum Director Jeff Lane's passion for cars was ignited when he was a teenager restoring his first car, a 1955 MG TF, which is showcased in the museum; and

WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Lane continued to collect and restore interesting cars and eventually accrued a personal collection of seventy cars; those cars served as the donation that started the foundation that operates the museum; and

WHEREAS, since the creation of the foundation, Mr. Lane has continued to acquire vehicles to add to the museum's rotating exhibits; Susan Lane serves as the museum's curator; and

WHEREAS, Lane Motor Museum is one of the few museums in the United States to specialize in European cars; although it houses some American-made cars, the museum mostly boasts European and Asian cars that are technically significant or uniquely different; and

WHEREAS, the museum also has the distinction of housing the largest collection of Czechoslovakian vehicles outside of Europe, including the famed 1947 Tatra T-87 Saloon; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Lane's passion for Citroën cars and other cars made in Europe stemmed from his father's passion for the MG, which the elder Lane first bought in 1955, while

he was a member of the United States Army stationed in Germany; Mr. Lane's father eventually bought another MG, and father and son took it to meets around the country; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to the Lanes' passion for cars, thoroughness, and overall attention to detail, each car on display contains a variety of information, including country of origin, mechanical specifications, top speeds, place in history, and fun facts; and

WHEREAS, museum onlookers will see everything from two French cars built in 1924, to the 2003 Mercedes Smart Car; and

WHEREAS, part of the museum's allure is the rarity of some of the cars, including the red Weidner Condor, circa 1959, which is one of only two known to exist; and

WHEREAS, other notable cars on display include the 1964 German Amphicar and the 1982 Hobbycar B612 from France, which are both amphibious vehicles, as well as the 1966 Citroën DS Ice Racer, the 1948 Davis Divan, the aerodynamic 1946 Hewson Rocket, and the 1965 Peel Trident microcar; and

WHEREAS, perhaps one of the most unique cars in the museum is the 1932 Helicron, a one-of-a-kind French vehicle with a wood frame and large propeller on the front; and

WHEREAS, the museum also showcases a replica of a 1952 Citroën Cogolin, which is two front ends of a car placed back-to-back, each with its own engine, steering wheel, and seating area; the genesis of that unique design came about when a fire and rescue service colonel in France found himself up a narrow hill with no way to turn, thus realizing the need for a vehicle that could be driven in either direction with equal ease; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the vehicle exhibits, Lane Motor Museum also contains a car-related art gallery, a car-themed play area for children, and a gift shop filled with model cars, books, postcards, and car-themed toys and gifts; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the Lanes' significant contributions to the automotive world, they and their museum deserve special recognition; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jeff and Susan Lane for their dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Jeff and Susan Lane of Lane Motor Museum for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, applaud them for their dedication to preserving and honoring some of the world's finest and rarest automobiles in the world, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.